

April 8

Jeremiah 17:9,10

**“Motivations &
Actions:
Analyzed & Paid”**



⁹ The heart is deceitful
above all things, and
desperately wicked: who
can know it? ¹⁰ I the LORD
search the heart, I try the
reins, even to give every
man according to his **ways**,
and according to the **fruit**
of his **doings**.

“Follow your heart”,
many say. Really?
Scripture says the
heart is more deceitful
than anything. The
heart is so bad that it

is described as being,
not just wicked, but
“*desperately*
wicked”.

Maybe some humans
just don't understand
the degree of the
heart's depravity.
After all, why would a
parent, teacher, or
spiritual leader tell
someone to, “follow
your heart”? With this

scriptural admonition
in mind, to tell anyone
to do such is like
saying, “Do whatever
you want to do.”

It’s extremely
irresponsible advice.

So why do some
people advise this
way?

Many instruct to
“follow your heart”
simply because

they've heard it
themselves. For some,
it's just an easy, sweet
response that
guarantees they won't
be blamed for
unpleasant outcomes.

Whatever the reason,
it is unscriptural
advice. Further, God
knows what is best
for each of us. This

passage says God searches the “hearts” and tries the “reins” of humankind, but what does that mean?

It has been explained that both hearts and reins would best be interpreted as the “mind”.

It may be that God

does run-through
tests much like
computer
programmers or game
designers would test
their product then
either put it on the
market, set it aside for
further work and
testing, or even
discard it. God
analyzes his creations'
motivations and

actions then, based on
their “ways” or “the
fruit” of their
“doings”, gives to
everyone accordingly.

Whether such
payment is received
on earth, or in an
after-life, or both, is
debatable and this
passage must be
spiritually discerned

so as not to be
misapplied.

Rightly divided, the
take-away is that God
is not naïve or blind to
the ways of humans.
God digs deeply and
probes into
the character of God's
own creations.

Neither good nor bad

thoughts nor helpful
nor harmful actions
are hidden from God.

Everything coming
from “deceitful and
desperately wicked
hearts” is, at some
point, remunerated.

Motivations and
actions are analyzed
and paid.